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EXTRAORDINARY

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MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(Department of Heavy Industries)

RESOLUTION

TARIFFS

*New Delhi, the 1st June 1957*

**No. 4(2)-TB/56.**—The Tariff Commission has submitted its Report on the continuance of protection to the Antimony Industry on the basis of an inquiry undertaken by it under Sections 11(e) and 13 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951. Its recommendations are as follows:—

- (1) Imports of antimony should be canalised through the State Trading Corporation which should set the targets for production and imports according to circumstances from time to time. The Corporation should also endeavour to secure imports of ore or crude antimony from foreign sources at economic prices. This arrangement may be reviewed when supplies of ore are available locally or from the traditional sources at competitive prices. If this recommendation is adopted, the domestic industry will be duly protected and no further protection need be granted to the industry by way of customs duty.
- (2) If the above recommendation is found unacceptable on account of any practical difficulties,
  - (a) the protective duty on antimony, other than crude antimony, should be raised to 60 per cent. *ad valorem*,
  - (b) the protective duty on crude antimony should be retained at 21 per cent. *ad valorem*, but this duty should be removed, if it is found to act as a hindrance to crude antimony being imported as raw material for production of antimony,

- (c) imports of antimony should be licensed liberally so as to ensure adequacy of supplies, and
  - (d) protection to this industry should be extended up to 31st December, 1958.
- (3) Antimony should no longer be subject to import control in its present form, except to the extent necessary for balance of payments reasons.
- (4) The Geological Survey of India should make more vigorous efforts to locate deposits of antimony ore within the country.
- (5) As the revised protective duty on antimony metal has been fixed on the basis of the landed costs from the cheapest source, the Star Metal Refinery should be required to fix its selling prices on the basis of such landed costs in future.

2. Recommendation (1) has been considered carefully by Government, but it has not been found acceptable on financial, administrative and other considerations. Government have, accordingly considered and accepted the alternative recommendations (2) (a), (b) and (d) in principle. The duty on crude antimony has recently been rounded off to 25 per cent. *ad valorem* under the Finance (No. 2) Bill 1957. However, reduction or abolition of this duty will be considered if and when the circumstances warrant such a step. Steps are being taken to bring into force immediately the higher protective duty of 60 per cent. *ad valorem* on 'Antimony other than crude antimony' assessable under I.C.T. No. 70(3).

3. Recommendations (2) (c) and (3) have been noted and will be taken into consideration along with other relevant factors while formulating import policy from time to time.

4. Recommendation (4) has also been noted and suitable action will be taken to implement it as far as possible.

5. Government have taken note of recommendation (5). The attention of the Star Metal Refinery is invited to the latter part of the recommendation.

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#### ORDER

Ordered that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all concerned and it be published in the *Gazette of India*.

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#### NOTIFICATION

##### TARIFFS

*New Delhi, the 1st June 1957*

**No. 4(2)-TB/56.**—WHEREAS the Central Government is satisfied after due inquiry that the duty chargeable under the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 (32 of 1934), in respect of the article specified in Item No. 70(3) of the First Schedule to the said Act, and characterised as protective in the third column thereof, has become ineffective for the purpose of securing the protection intended to be afforded by it to similar articles manufactured in India;

Now, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 4 of the said Act, as in force in India and as applied to the State of Pondicherry, the Central Government hereby increases, with effect from the 1st June, 1957, the duty of customs on the said article so that the duty chargeable shall from the said date be as specified in column 3 of the table annexed hereto.

THE TABLE

Item No. of Tariff	Name of article	Rate of duty
1	2	3
70(3)	ANTIMONY, other than crude antimony.	60 per cent <i>ad valorem</i> .

S. RANGANATHAN, Secy.

